



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/669,289	09/24/2003	Takashi Morino	1232-5162	6546

27123 7590 07/24/2007
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
3 WORLD FINANCIAL CENTER
NEW YORK, NY 10281-2101

EXAMINER

HUNG, YUBIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2624

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

07/24/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/669,289	Applicant(s) MORINO, TAKASHI	
	Examiner Yubin Hung	Art Unit 2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 May 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Amendment/Arguments

1. This action is in response to amendment filed 05/11/07, which has been entered.
2. Claim 2 has been cancelled and claims 3-10 have been added; currently claims 1 and 3-10 are still pending.
3. Applicant's amendment has rendered moot the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.
5. Claims 1, 3-5, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Wakao et al. (US 2002/0060736).
6. Regarding claim 1, Wakao discloses
 - an image pickup unit which captures an image and generates means for generating image data representing a captured image

Art Unit: 2624

[Fig. 1, refs. 14 (image pickup unit, which is part of ref. 10 of both Figs. 4 & 12) and 18; Fig. 4, ref. S401 (image data); P. 2, paragraph 42 and paragraph 43, lines 2-4 & last 3 lines; P. 3, paragraph 49, lines 1-3 (generating image data). Note that the image is compressed (e.g., by JPEG)]

- an inspection data generating unit which generates means for generating inspection data necessary to inspect whether the image data is modified or not, wherein said inspection data generating unit adds first data and second data to the image data, the first data indicating a generation method of the inspection data and the second data indicating a location of the image data

[Fig. 4, refs. 10 (inspection data generating unit), S402 (generating primary verification, i.e., inspection, data) & S403 ("Specific ID" as the first data); paragraph 62. Note that since the specific ID is used to determine the device that generates the verification (i.e., inspection) data and the generation method is associated with both the devices for the generation and the use of the data, the specific ID therefore necessarily indicates the generation method. Note further that Wakao also discloses using TIFF for the image file (paragraph 49, lines 5-9) and TIFF syntax requires information indicating the location of the image data. (Note further still: Information regarding TIFF can be found in, for example, Fig. 1, "Offset of the 0th IFD" and PP. 13-15 of TIFF, Revision 6.0, 06/03/1992 by Adobe Developers Association.)]

7. Regarding claims 3-5, 9 and 10, Wakao further discloses

- (Claim 3) an image compression unit which compresses the image data before said inspection data generating unit generates the inspection data
[Fig. 4: refs. S401 & 402; paragraphs 49 (especially lines 5-7) & 50. Note that the image data is compressed]
- (Claim 4) wherein said image compression unit compresses the image data in accordance with an image compression method conformed to JPEG or JPEG-2000
[Fig. 4: ref. S401; paragraphs 49, line 8 (JPEG compression)]
- (Claim 5) wherein said image compression unit compresses the image data in accordance with a lossless compression method
[Paragraph 49, lines 5-9 (using TIFF, which specifies Group 3 compression, a lossless compression method, among others)]
- (Claim 9) wherein said image pickup apparatus is one of a digital camera and an apparatus including a digital camera and
(Claim 10) wherein said image pickup apparatus is one of a scanner and a copying machine
[Fig. 12, ref. 10; paragraph 38]

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakao et al. (US 2002/0060736) as applied to claims 1, 3-5, 9 and 10 above, and further in view of Lanthaler (EP 1211587 A1).

10. Regarding claim 6, Wakao discloses all limitations of its parent, claim 1.

Wakao does not expressly disclose the following, which is taught by Lanthaler:

- wherein said inspection data generating unit generates second inspection data necessary to inspect whether additional data of the image data is modified or not
[Refs. 28 (additional data to a set of data 26) & 30 (second inspection data) of Figs. 2 & 3; Fig. 4, refs 58 & 60; Col. 5, paragraph 23]

Wakao is combinable with Lanthaler because both have aspects that are from the same field of endeavor of data integrity.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Wakao with the teaching of Lanthaler as recited above. The motivation would

Art Unit: 2624

have been to be able to ensure the integrity of the additional data, as Lanthaler indicates in Col. 5, paragraph 23, lines 50-54].

Therefore it would have been obvious to combine Lanthaler with Wakao to obtain the invention as specified in claim 6.

11. Regarding claim 7, note that Wakao discloses adding data indicating the method for generating inspection data for data of interest (e.g., the image data) and data indicating the location of that data of interest; therefore it would have been obvious to do the same for the additional data and the motivation would have been to be able to subsequently locate and retrieve the additional data and to validate its integrity using its corresponding inspection data. Note further that Lanthaler discloses adding the additional data, as per the analysis of claim 6 [specifically, see Fig. 3, ref. 28 (addition data that is added to the file of ref. 24)].

12. Regarding claim 8, note that Wakao further discloses adding the identifier of the image pick device [Fig. 4, refs. 10 & S403 "Specific ID" paragraph 60, last 3 lines].

Conclusion and Contact Information

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- TIFF Revision 6.0, 06/03/1992, by Adobe Developers Association, pp. 13-18
- Chui (US 2001/0041015 A1) – discloses using a file header format containing additional information such as image quality level

14. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

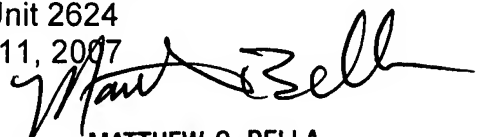
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2624

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yubin Hung whose telephone number is (571) 272-7451. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 - 4:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew C. Bella can be reached on (571) 272-7778. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

16. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Yubin Hung
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2624
July 11, 2007



MATTHEW C. BELLA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600